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Bring this home with you.

Read it.

Take a copy for someone else.



BOOK OF THE WEEK

A GRIEF OBSERVED

By C.S. LEWIS

FABER AND FABER LONDON 1961 pp64



An old classic on bereavement. At times almost chatty it is always profound. In the face of the loss of his wife he presents us with what is essentially an argument. In this month of November it might be good to allow this great writer companion us in this precious little book.

FAITH MOMENT

Only in light of God's unfailing offer of friendship and covenant love do we best understand Catholic beliefs about the Last Things'. In light of Jesus' victory over death in his resurrection and ascension we have the certain hope of our eternal union with God.

Parish Council

New members required for Parish Council.

Fr. Joe would love to hear from you.

St. Vincent DePaul

Monthly Church Gate Collection
Next Sunday

Gospel Readings for the Week

- Mon 21/11 Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Mt 12:46-50 Who is my mother/brothers/sisters?
- Tue 22/11 St. Cecilia, Patroness of Music/Musicians
Lk 21: 5-11 Refuse to join them
- Wed 23/11 St. Columban, Abbot/Missionary
Lk 21: 12-19 Your endurance will win you your lives
- Thu 24/11 **Lk 21:20-28** Stand erect, hold your heads high because your liberation is at hand
- Fri 25/11 **Lk 21:29-33** Heaven and earth will pass away but my words will never pass away
- Sat 26/11 **Lk 21:34-36** From early morning the people would gather round him in the Temple to listen to him.

Family Offering

Envelopes

Now Available in
Parish Centre

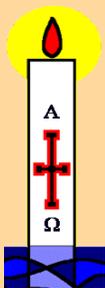
Parish Centre
Phone: 626 56 95

Eucharistic Adoration

- Mon 10.30 – 4.00
- Wed 10.30 – 9.00
- Fri 10.30 – 9.00

Divine Mercy Meeting

Every Wed Evening @ 8.00pm
in the Prayer Room



Month of November
Morning Prayer
Exposition 9.30 - 10.00

To Pray For Those
Who Have Died

Mass Times

- Saturday: 6.30 (Vigil Mass)
- Sunday: 9.00, 9.45 (Convent),
10.30, 12.00
- Weekdays:
- 10.00 Monday – Friday
- 7.30 Tuesday

Rumblings from the Bunker



IN THE GRIP OF FEAR

I had a very unusual encounter with darkness just a few days ago. Unusual in the sense that such a thing rarely happens at least to the degree that it hit me the other day. It was quite intense. It is important to set the scene a little. I had been invited to Belfast to celebrate a special day with the Christian Brothers, the men with whom I had worked and shared my life with for over twenty five years. The day of the celebration was commemorating, to the day, one hundred and fifty years ago, the arrival of the first four Christian Brothers in my native city. On top of this I am a past pupil of the Brothers and a former Head of RE in my alma mater. I mention all this for two reasons: I certainly belonged at the celebration and there was much for me to celebrate and give thanks for on the occasion. However a couple of things were sowing seeds of doubt. I knew I would be welcomed by the Brothers but I was concerned more about the Bishops and priests. Would they welcome me? Would they include me? Worse still would they slight or exclude me? What should have been joyful anticipation was beginning to slide into a swamp of doubt.

It took me a while to name it but very quickly I realised Fear had stepped in beside me. I am not sure if you have noticed how common fear is. I have been struck by voters in Britain, and last week in the United States, claiming that what had motivated their recent vote was fear. Fear of the Unknown, fear of what might happen, fear of the stranger, fear of not having enough. Is there much fear in your life? One of the great casualties of fear is freedom. Fear paralyses us. I was amazed the other night how it gradually tightened its grip on me. I began to tell myself that I was not really wanted at the celebration. I won't fit in. I'm not good enough. Fear has many masks. Sure I had plenty of work to do without travelling north. It would be a good chance to catch up on some desk work. House work! Twice I woke during the night. I got back to sleep fairly quickly but was conscious of the anxiety. In the morning it occurred to me I could have a lovely day here in Dublin. At this stage as well as freedom being a casualty another casualty was joy. Gradually fear was sucking the joy out of my day. It is interesting how fear builds on previous bad experience. The time we failed. Our mistakes. It reminds us of the voices that told us we'll never make it, our efforts will come to nothing. Is there much fear in your life? Do you know where it comes from? How does fear influence your life? Does it stop you doing things? Saying things? Going places? Does fear suck the joy out of your life?

Despite being a bit drained by the fear, despite what should have been joy-filled anticipation being a bit worn, I went to Belfast last Saturday. I knew deep down it was important to go. I know from past experience that even the slightest giving into fear, feeds it. I was very glad I went. I had a most blessed day. The welcome was warm and one or two people that I had predicted may be hostile, or at least cold, were in fact the opposite. I felt accepted. I felt included. I had fun. It was a positive uplifting experience. Had I given into fear I would have missed all these blessings. I am so glad I went. There was no victory for fear on Saturday. How did this happen? How did the day that began with the tight bind that stifled and restricted, end in a day that had joy in the heart?

I firmly believe that fear is the opposite of God. The Lord wants us to be free. To sing. To dance. To run. To laugh. The Lord does not want us paralysed. Nor bound, nor stuck. So where does fear come from and how does it get such a hold on us? Of course we can trace it back to childhood, to an overly strict parent or a harsh teacher, or the playground bully. Undoubtedly one or more of these may well play it's part but I believe it may be something deeper. I believe fear fundamentally comes from the evil spirit. I say this rather than use the word devil as that quickly descends into the horned, spiky-tailed caricature. The evil spirit is cleverer and more subtle than that. The fork and the brimstone would be a dead give away. If only evil was so easily recognised! The evil spirit wants us to live in darkness. To be unhappy. How do we fight fear? The most powerful way of fighting fear and its origin, is through the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit, the Holy Breath of God, the third person of the Holy Trinity uses its gifts of courage and hope. Immediately you see the fruits of the Holy Spirit which include joy and peace. So then in the face of our fear we move slowly, one step at a time, but decisively, asking the Holy Spirit to swirl round us like a protective cloak, protecting us, warming and encouraging us, not to give fear another victory.

Mass Intentions

6.30 Saturday

Thomas Davis, Sheila Egan,
Bernard Ward, Mary Walsh,
Jane Gleeson, Kevin McMahon
Dave Fitzgerald

9.00 Sunday

Bridget Dillon, Breda Meyer

10.30 Sunday

Esther, Patrick Whelan,
Grace White, Sarah Corcoran

12.00 Sunday

Anthony Williams, Peter O'Reilly,
Eileen Hynes, Leslie Fennesy,
Greta Whelan, Hannah Donegan,
Sheila Egan

7.30 Tuesday

Philomena, James McCluskey



HOW REAL IS JESUS FOR ME?

Three talks will be given by Fr. Joe during Advent exploring Jesus as presented in the Gospels and how we might have a deep personal relationship with him.

HOW REAL IS JESUS FOR ME? (1)

Tuesday December 6th 10.30am repeated at 7pm

HOW REAL IS JESUS FOR ME? (2)

Wednesday December 14th 10.30 / 7pm

HOW REAL IS JESUS FOR ME? (3)

Thursday December 22nd 10.30/7pm

WEEKLY ROSARY IN THE PRAYER ROOM

From Monday November 21st 2016 the Rosary will be prayed in the Prayer Room at 11am. This is an initiative of the Marian Movement

MORNING PRAYER

For Advent @ 9.40 Mon-Fri
All Welcome

LECTIO DIVINA

Each Wednesday
In Advent @ 10.30



Church Collection Totals

6/10

First Collection 835

Share Collection 585

Family Offering 778

Fr. Eamonn Mulcahy



**JUBILEE
OF MERCY**

Our thanks to Fr. Eamonn for a wonderful talk to mark the end of the Jubilee Year of Mercy on Nov 9.

It was very encouraging to see so many people coming into the church for the occasion.

Well done to all.

MOA P S-Z M D F H I C



Read the Gospel and Color



Puzzle

Draw different flowers for Jesus.



Sharing the Gospel

When someone hurts you, you might get very angry. You might want to say or do mean things to get even. Before you do anything, pray first. Ask God to help you say and do the right things. When Jesus hung on the cross, he said, "Father, forgive them." When you love God and forgive yourself and others, God will say, "I promise that when you die, you will be with me in paradise."

Prayer

Lord, I want to be with you in paradise.

Something to Draw

Draw yourself and your friend fighting and then a picture of you forgiving each other.

Mission for the Week

I will ask God to help me forgive when I am hurt and angry.

News from Caritas College

Student Café

Our new student café is due to open during the week. Breakfast will be available free of charge for all students from 8.15am each day and there will be an option of a hot dish (e.g chicken curry, pasta Bolognese), soup and roll, sandwiches and salads as well as fruit, yoghurts etc at very reasonable prices. Our All-purpose Area has been renovated and we are very excited with this new service for our students



Simon Fun Run
On a cold and wet Saturday in October Caritas College students and staff took part in the Simon 5K Fun Run in the Phoenix Park.

Prize Bingo

Caritas Parents Association is holding a Monster Bingo Night on Monday November 28th at 7.30pm. Books €10. All welcome.

Renovations

There's a lot happening in Caritas College at the moment. The All-Purpose Area is currently being renovated, the student entrance hall and toilets were painted in the summer, our new Multi-sensory room is taking shape, the resource room has been given a make-over and the Parents Room is next on the list.



Winners of the Maths Week Poster Competition
presented with their prizes

Social Media

You can keep up to date with all the news from Caritas College on our

Facebook Page: @caritasballyfermot
or on Twitter: @caritascollege

Our website is currently being revamped and will be launched in a few weeks.

Dublin Gospel Choir

25 NOVEMBER @ 8PM

ST. MATTHEW'S CHURCH

Did You Get Your Ticket Yet?

(Doors Open @ 7.30pm)

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS
BRO. KEVIN SINGERS

Tickets €12
Contact Ken Byrne
@ 086 236 52 88

